CHAPTER 6

ICD-10-CM Medical Coding
Key Terms and Abbreviations

- Coordination and Maintenance (C&M) Committee
- crosswalk
- General Equivalence Mappings (GEM) files
- health information management (HIM)
- ICD-10 Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-PCS)
Key Terms and Abbreviations

- *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CM)*
- mapping
- National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
Chapter Objectives

After completing this lecture, you should be able to complete the following learning objectives:

- 6.1: Understand the similarities and variances between ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes.
- 6.2: Recognize the difference between a crosswalk and mapping.
Chapter Objectives

• After completing this lecture, you should be able to complete the following learning objectives:
  – 6.3: Compare ICD-9 and ICD-10 general coding guidelines.
  – 6.4: Discuss new features found in ICD-10-PCS.
Similarities and Variances Between ICD-9 and ICD-10

6.1: Understand the similarities and variances between ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes.
6.1: Similarities and Variances Between ICD-9 and ICD-10

- General Comparison
  - The two coding systems have a similar hierarchy and format, but ICD-10 includes over 50,000 additional codes beyond those available in ICD-9.
  - Changes in ICD-10 are primarily in its organization and structure, code composition, and level of detail.
6.1: Similarities and Variances Between ICD-9 and ICD-10

- General Comparison
  - The availability of additional codes in ICD-10 allows for a much greater level of specificity and accuracy in coding.
  - The higher level of detail provided by ICD-10 codes will greatly improve the accuracy and usefulness of data used for medical research.
6.1: Similarities and Variances Between ICD-9 and ICD-10

- General Comparison
  - ICD-9 uses 3- to 5-digit codes.
  - ICD-10 uses 3- to 7-digit codes.
### 6.1: Similarities and Variances Between ICD-9 and ICD-10

#### Table 6.1 — Comparison of ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-9-CM Diagnosis Codes</th>
<th>ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3–5 digits</td>
<td>3–7 characters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximately 13,000 codes</td>
<td>Approximately 68,000 available codes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First digit is alpha (E or V) or numeric (alpha characters are not case sensitive);</td>
<td>Character 1 is alpha; characters 2 and 3 are numeric; characters 4–7 are alpha or numeric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digits 2–5 are numeric</td>
<td>Flexible for adding new codes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacks detail</td>
<td>Very specific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacks laterality</td>
<td>Has laterality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficult to analyze data due to nonspecific codes</td>
<td>Specificity improves coding accuracy and richness of data for analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codes are nonspecific and do not adequately define diagnosis needed for medical research</td>
<td>Detail improves the accuracy of data used for medical research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples:**
- 496 — Chronic airway obstruction, not elsewhere classified (NEC)
- 511.9 — Unspecified pleural effusion
- V02.61 — Hepatitis B carrier
- A78 — Q fever
- A69.21 — Meningitis due to Lyme disease
- S52.131A — Displaced right radius, initial encounter for closed fracture
6.2: Recognize the difference between a crosswalk and mapping.
6.2: Crosswalk and Mapping

- Conversion Tools
  - Crosswalks: provide a direct match between ICD-9 and ICD-10 but do not include full detail reflecting the complexity of the ICD-10 codes
6.2: Crosswalk and Mapping

- Conversion Tools
  - **Mapping**: reflects the complexity of the code sets and demonstrates hierarchical relationships; takes into consideration the entire range of codes included in ICD-10
6.3: Compare ICD-9 and ICD-10 general coding guidelines.
6.3: General Coding Guidelines

• Coding Process
  – In both systems, the same general guidelines apply to the process of locating the appropriate code.
  – First, the main term is located in the Alphabetic Index.
6.3: General Coding Guidelines

- Coding Process
  - Second, the code is verified using the Tabular List.
  - Where ICD-9 and ICD-10 vary is in the selection of the full code.
6.3: General Coding Guidelines

• Coding Process
  – A seventh digit must be included as part of the code, when applicable. A dash (-) at the end of an alphabetic entry indicates that one or more additional digits (characters) are required.
6.3: General Coding Guidelines

- Coding Process
  - A code will be considered invalid if it does not contain the required number of digits.
New Features in ICD-10-PCS

6.4: Discuss new features found in ICD-10-PCS.
6.4: New Features in ICD-10-PCS

- ICD-10 Procedure Coding System
  - System of medical classification used for procedural codes.
  - ICD-10-PCS replaces Volume 3 of ICD-9-CM.
  - All procedures currently performed can be specified.
6.4: New Features in ICD-10-PCS

- ICD-10 Procedure Coding System
  - Provides unique codes for specific body parts and variations of procedures.
  - ICD-10-PCS codes contain seven alphanumeric characters compared to three or four digits in ICD-9-CM.
### Table 6.2: Comparison of ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes and ICD-10-PCS Procedure Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes</th>
<th>ICD-10-PCS Procedure Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3–4 numerals in length</td>
<td>7 alphanumeric characters in length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximately 3,000 codes</td>
<td>Approximately 87,000 available codes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on outdated technology</td>
<td>Reflects current usage of medical terminology and devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited space for adding new codes</td>
<td>Very specific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacks detail</td>
<td>Has laterality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacks laterality</td>
<td>Detailed descriptions for body parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generic terms for body parts</td>
<td>Allows DRG definitions for better recognition of new technologies and devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits DRG assignment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>